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U.S. Application No. 10/766,823

REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 1-22 remain pending.

The Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner and his supervisor for the courtesies extended during the office interview of September 18, 2006, during which the differences between logical volumes and virtual volumes were discussed with particular reference to the logical volumes manipulated by McBrearty and the inventive virtualization of a logical volume so that the host thinks it is requesting replication in a disk unit controlled by a first control unit, when in fact the replication is being created in a disk unit controlled by a second control unit but virtualized in the first disk unit with a virtual volume number of the first disk unit for which there is no actual volume created therein.

Thus, it is believed that the amendments and remarks of record patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the Examiner's interpretation of McBrearty as expressed during the interview: namely, that McBrearty teaches the claimed "volume pair information table" as the mapping table shown in Fig. 5; the claimed "virtual replication volume" as backup volume PSS-3; and the claimed virtual replication volume "corresponded to at least one logical volume" as backup volume PSS-4 corresponding to PSS-3.

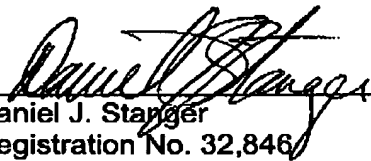
To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the

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deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger, Malur & Brundidge, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. ASA-1162).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.


Daniel J. Stanger
Registration No. 32,846

DJS/sdb
(703) 684-1120